UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF OHIO WESTERN DIVISION

BRADLEY L. POWELL, SR., : Case No. 1:19-cv-637

:

Plaintiff, : Judge Timothy S. Black

vs. :

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FLUOR-B&W PORTSMOUTH LLC,

:

Defendant.

ORDER RESOLVING DEFENDANT'S MOTION TO DISMISS AND/OR TRANSFER VENUE (Doc. 5)

On January 3, 2020, Defendant filed a motion to dismiss this case and/or transfer its venue (the "Venue Motion"). (Doc. 5). In the motion, Defendant argued that, based on the allegations in the Complaint, Plaintiff had wrongfully filed this case in the Western (Cincinnati) Division, as opposed to the Eastern (Columbus) Division, of the Southern District of Ohio. (*Id.* at 1).

On January 24, 2020, Plaintiff filed a response to the Venue Motion. (Doc. 8). In the response, Plaintiff <u>agreed</u> that this case should be transferred from the Western (Cincinnati) Division to the Eastern (Columbus) Division of the Southern District of Ohio. (*Id.* at 1). However, Plaintiff opposed dismissal. (*Id.*) Defendant did not file a reply in support of the Venue Motion.

On review, the Court agrees that transfer is appropriate.

Section 1406 provides that, in the interest of justice, a court may transfer a case filed in the wrong district or division "to any district or division in which it could have

been brought." 28 U.S.C. § 1406(a). The Local Rules provide that a plaintiff should file suit against a Pike County resident in the Eastern (Columbus) Division of the Southern District of Ohio. S.D. Ohio Civ. R. 82.1(a)–(d).

Here, there is no question that Defendant is a Pike County resident. (Doc. 1 at ¶ 2). Accordingly, this case should have been filed in Columbus—not Cincinnati. S.D. Ohio Civ. R. 82.1(a)–(d). As all parties agree that this case should proceed in Columbus, not Cincinnati, and as a transfer would facilitate this case's expeditious resolution, the Court concludes that 28 U.S.C. § 1406(a) relief is appropriate.

Based upon the foregoing, and in the interest of justice, this case is hereby **TRANSFERRED** from the Western (Cincinnati) Division to the Eastern (Columbus)

Division of the Southern District of Ohio, for reassignment to a Judge at that location.

IT IS SO ORDERED.

Date: _	4/17/2020	s/Timothy S. Black
		Timothy S. Black
		United States District Judge